Payment of compensation for laying of land mines

3031. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the payment of crop compensation for land under mines has not been released as per data collected in 1st phase;

(b) is there any farmers whose land was included in the 1st phase but not in subsequent phases 2nd, 3rd and 4th;

(c) whether mines were laid in 2001 and removed in 2004 in all the border areas;

(d) whether payment has been released from 2001 to 2004 to all the land owners; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the number of left out cases and target date by which payment is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The data collection and compilation has not been done in phases.

(c) The work of removal of mines laid in connection with Operation Parakram was completed in January, 2005.

(d) The payment has been sanctioned upto 31st December, 2003 to all areas except the land falling under Northern Command where payments have been sanctioned upto October, 2004. Payment upto December, 2004 has not been sanctioned since necessary procedures have not been completed.

(e) Two cases of left out payments have been reported. Payment is likely to be released by October, 2005.

Special Family Pension

3032. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Special Family Pension (SFP) is granted to widows/dependents in case of death of A.F. Personnel on duty and if death is caused/aggravated by his service in A.F;